



# A PROCLAMATION

*Indicting a solemn and religious Fast, to be keeped and observed throughout the whole Kingdom of Scotland*



**CHARLES**, by the Grace of GOD, King of *Great-Britain, France and Ireland*, Defender of the Faith; To all and sundry Our good Subjects, Greeting: Forasmuch as Almighty God, after a sinful abuse of the holy Gospel, and of the never to be forgotten Deliverance of this Our ancient Kingdom, from the Yoke of Bondage and Usurpation, and of Our Royal Person and Government, from the open Rebellions, and secret Plots and Conspiracies of Traiterous and Phanatical Enemies; and after a long and impious despising of Peace and Plenty, doth by his righteous Judgements, manifestly discover his Anger and Displeasure against the grievous sins of this Kingdom; and particularly, by the long continuance of the

Rigor and Storms of the last Winter, and the severity and unnatural Coldness of the present Spring, whereby not only a great part of the Cattel and Bestial are already destroyed, and the remanent in apparent danger; but even the ordinary Season of Plowing and Sowing of the Ground, was in danger almost to be lost, thereby threatening the breaking of *The Staff of Bread*, and the dreadful *Plague of Famine*: Which Dispensation, doth invite persons of all Ranks, to speedy and true Repentance, and the National Expression thereof, by deep Mourning, and solemn Fasting and Humiliation. Therefore We, with Advice and Consent of the Lords of Our Privy Council, Do appoint and ordain a Day of Humiliation to be observed by all Our Subjects of this Kingdom; strictly Commanding and Requiring them, upon that Day, to cease from all the Works of their ordinary Callings, and to repair to their respective Paroch Churches, and there, make solemn Confession of their Sins, and Implore the Divine Mercy to Us, and Our Subjects, by Praying, Mourning, Fasting, and such other Devotions, as are usual upon such Dayes of publick Humiliation; more particularly, contritely to Confess and Mourn for the great neglect and contempt of, and disobedience to the holy Gospel, for the sinful Separation from the Ordinances thereof, and for the great and lamentable prevalency of Atheism, Error, Prophaness, and Impiety occasioned thereby; and for the sinful undervaluing of the great Blessings of Peace and Plenty, so long continued under Our Government: By all which, and many other crying Sins, the Lords Anger and Jealousie are kindled, and his Hand is stretched out to the Destruction of the Cattel, and threatening the Fruits of the Ground, the necessary Provision for the Life of Man and Beast, that by fervent Mourning, and sincere turning from these provoking Sins, the Lord may graciously pardon them, and repent him of the evil threatened, and most righteously deserved. And for this end, We do require the Archbishops of *St. Andrews and Glasgow*, the Bishop of *Edinburgh, Galloway, Dunkeld, Aberdeen, Brechin, and Dunblane*, to cause it to be Intimated in the several Paroch Churches of their Diocesses, upon *Sunday* the fourth day of *May*, and to be Celebrated and observed, on *Wednesday* thereafter; and the remanent Bishops, whose Diocesses are more remote, to cause it to be Intimated on *Sunday* the twenty fifth of *May*, to be observed the *Wednesday* thereafter, by Reading the same from the Pulpit, after Divine service, the Sabbath before the saids respective Dayes of Fasting and Humiliation.

Given under Our Signet at *Edinburgh*, the seventeenth day of *April*, One thousand six hundred eighty four.  
And of Our Reign, the threttieth and sixth Year,

*Per actum Dominorum Secreti Concilij.*

WILL. PATERSON, *Cls. Sti. Concilij.*

## GOD save the KING.

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of *Andrew Anderson*, Printer to His most Sacred Majesty, *Anno Dom. 1684.*